

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 11 have been cancelled. Thus, Claims 1, 3-10 and 12-15 are currently pending in the present application, of which Claims 1 and 10 have been amended.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-7, 10 and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Howard* (US 4,819,801). Applicants respectfully traverse such rejection insofar as it might apply to the claims as amended herein.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 2 and 11 would be allowable if they were rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Because the contents of Claims 2 and 11 have been incorporated within Claims 1 and 10, respectively, the § 102 rejection is believed to be overcome.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1, 3-10 and 12-15 are currently pending in the present application. For the reasons stated above, Applicants believe that independent Claims 1 and 10 along with their respective dependent claims are in condition for allowance. The remaining prior art cited by the Examiner but not relied upon has been reviewed and is not believed to show or suggest the claimed invention.

No fee or extension of time is believed to be necessary; however, in the event that any additional fee or extension of time is required for the prosecution of the present application, please charge it against IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0449.

Respectfully submitted,



Antony P. Ng
Registration No. 43,427
DILLON & YUDELL, LLP
8911 N. Capital of Texas Hwy., suite 2110
Austin, Texas 78759
(512) 343-6116

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS